DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2.   Claims 10, 11, & 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated

by Norman al el (U.S. 6,320,815 B1).

3.   As per claim 10 Norman disclosed a method of resetting a plurality of connected

nodes (col.1, lines 11-17), comprising: initiating a reset request at a first node; and

sending a reset request packet from the first node to a second node, wherein the reset

request packet is recognized by the second node as a reset command, and the second

node resets itself (col.14, lines 15-39).

4.   As per claim 11 Norman disclosed the method of resetting a plurality of

connected nodes as claimed in claim 10, wherein the reset request packet is sent

(col.14, lines 15-39) serially and sequentially to further nodes (col.11, lines 57-63).

5.   As per claim 14 Norman disclosed the method of resetting a plurality of

connected nodes as claimed in claim 10, wherein when a node receives and recognizes

a reset packet, a time delay is started for the packet to be further processed and sent on

before resetting is implemented (col.14, lines 15-39). It is apparent that this functionally

is anticipated by the Norman because if the packet is not sent to the next serially

connected node before the implementation of the resent on the current then the reset

command would fail to propagate to the next node.

6.   As per claim 15 Norman disclosed the method of resetting a plurality of

connected nodes as claimed in claim 10, wherein a standard interface is used to initiate

the reset re-set packet (col.11, lines 57-63).

7.   As per claim 16 Norman disclosed The method of resetting a plurality of

connected nodes as claimed in claim 10, wherein the method is initiated by a manager

request that is converted into a control reset packet (col.14, lines 15-39).

8.   As per claim 17 Norman disclosed the method of resetting a plurality of

connected nodes as claimed in claim 10, wherein the method is initiated by a debug

command that is converted into a control reset packet (col.14, lines 15-39).

9.   As per claim 14 Norman disclosed the method of resetting a plurality of

connected nodes as claimed in claim 10, wherein the node is a node in a computing or

telecommunications network and is able receive a reset data packet and to recognize

the packet and reset the node and able to forward the reset data packet to other nodes

(col.14, lines 15-39).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

11.   Claims 12 & 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Norman et al and Whetsel (U.S. 2002/0035658A1).

12.   As per claim 12 Norman disclosed the method of resetting a plurality of

connected nodes as claimed in claim 10. However Norman did not explicitly disclose

wherein the nodes are arranged in a ring. In the same field of endeavor Whetsel

disclosed wherein the nodes are arranged in a ring (Paragraphs, 6 & 7) .

It would have been obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to have incorporated the nodes being arranged in a ring as disclosed by

Whetsel in the method of resetting plurality of nodes disclosed by Norman in order to

make the system's implementation capabilities more flexible hence making the system

more versatile.

13.   As per claim 13 Norman disclosed the method of resetting a plurality of

connected nodes as claimed in claim 10. However Norman did not explicitly disclose

wherein the reset packet has a register that is decremented on passing through a node.

In the same field of endeavor Whetsel disclosed wherein the reset packet has a register

that is decremented on passing through a node (Paragraphs.10 & 251).

It would have been obvious tone in the ordinary skill in the art to have at the time the

invention was made to have incorporated a reset packet having a register being

decremented as disclosed by Whestel in the method of resetting plurality of nodes

disclosed by Norman in order to improve the effectiveness of the system in

implementing rest command resulting in a more robust system.

Conclusion

14.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

15.   Jackson et al 6,052779 disclosed automatic wake-up of systems in a data

processing network.

16.   Madineni et al U.S. 2003/0037171 A1 disclosed system and method for

distributed device control.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to ASGHAR BILGRAMI whose telephone number is

(571)272-3907. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Tonia L.M. Dollinger can be reached on 571-272-4170. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. B./
Examiner, Art Unit 2443

/Tonia LM Dollinger/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2143